IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): The monosodium salt of 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid in an amorphous form, having the X-ray diffraction pattern showing characteristic broad obtuse peak at 2θ angles ranging from 15 to 25 °, and, optionally, two sharp peaks at 2θ angles of 5.856 and 6.99 °.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The substance according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ having a characteristic broad obtuse peak at 2θ angles ranging from 17.4 to 20.2 °.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The substance according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ having bands at 3084, 2936, 1633, 1051 and 120 cm^{-1} in the Raman spectrum and [[by]] expanded bands at 139, 125, 75 and 37 ppm in the ^{13}C CP MAS NMR spectrum.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The substance according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ having two sharp peaks at 2θ angles of 5.856 and 6.99 ° and a broad band at 2θ 17.6 ° and a plateau without peaks between 2θ angles of 23 - 35 °.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The substance according to claim 4, ~~characterized by~~ having expanded bands at 3085, 2786, 2379, 1561, 1212 and 809 cm^{-1} in the IR spectrum and [[by]] expanded bands at 137.9, 124.5, 73.6, 36.8 ppm in the ^{13}C CP MAS NMR spectrum.

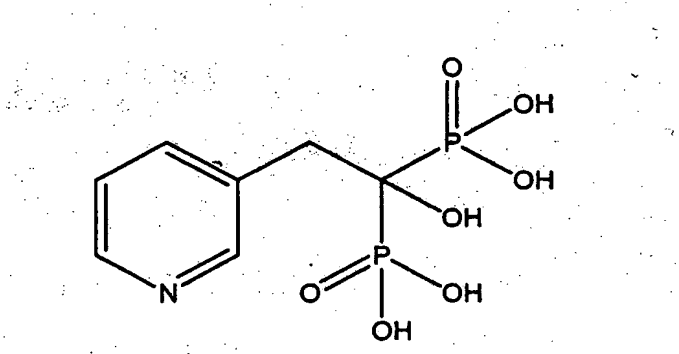
Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The substance according to claim 3 ~~or 4~~, having the water content of 0 to 7 % by weight.

Claim 7 (Original): The substance according to claim 6, having the water content of 4 to 7 % by weight.

Claim 8 (Original): The substance according to claim 3, having the water content of 7 to 10 % by weight.

Claim 9 (Original): The substance according to claim 8, having the water content of 9 to 10 % by weight.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method of ~~preparation of~~ preparing the substance ~~according~~ of claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising heating 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid of formula I



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in the crystalline form ~~is heated at~~ to a temperature of 60 to 200 °C for 1 to 48 hours.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the crystalline substance of formula I is used in the form of pentahydrate.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 10 ~~or 11~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the crystalline substance of formula I is heated [[at]] to a temperature of 120 to 140 °C.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pentahydrate of the substance of formula I is heated [[at]] to a temperature of 130 °C for 4 to 8 hours.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A method of ~~preparation of~~ preparing the substance ~~according~~ of claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising heating 3-pyridyl-1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-bisphosphonic acid (formula I) in the crystalline form ~~is heated at~~ to a temperature of 50 to 120 °C, under a pressure of 10 to 100 kPa, for 1 to 48 hours.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the crystalline substance of formula I is used in the form of pentahydrate.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the crystalline substance of formula I is heated [[at]] to a temperature of 50 to 100 °C, ~~the temperature being~~ at a gradually elevated rate.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pentahydrate of the substance of formula I is heated at 110 °C for 18 to 48 hours.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said heating is carried out under a reduced pressure~~, preferably~~ of at 10 to 30 kPa.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A method of ~~preparation of~~ preparing the substance ~~according~~ of claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising spray drying a solution of risedronate sodium ~~is spray dried~~ in a stream of [[a]] gas.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spray drying is applied to a solution of risedronate sodium having the concentration of 1 to 250 g/l in water, optionally in a mixture of water with a Cl to C4 alcohol.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 19 ~~or 20~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the solution of risedronate is heated to 20 to 100 °C before ~~being fed~~ feeding to the drier.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 19, ~~20 and 21, characterized in that~~ wherein the drying is carried at a temperature of the feed nozzle region of the drier ranging from 70 to 220 °C.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The method according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 19[[-22]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gas outlet from the spray dryer has a temperature of 40 to 150 °C.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 22 ~~or 23~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the temperature of the outlet gases from the drier is maintained at 50 to 70 °C.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical formulation, ~~characterized in that it contains the~~ comprising an active substance ~~in the amorphous form according to~~ of claim 1 in amorphous form and at least one ~~other~~ pharmaceutically ~~utilizable substance~~ acceptable carrier.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the carrier is a ~~tablet containing~~ a combination of mannitol and microcrystalline cellulose in tablet form.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 25 ~~or 26~~, ~~characterized in that it contains~~ comprising 5 or 35 mg of the active substance.